



# 'On the Grounds' at OCC

*Martin Wright*

On Sunday, July 27th we will celebrate "OCC FAMILY DAY" in a new and very creative way. This special day will be all about faith, families and fun and it will include a number of special opportunities for our families to worship, serve, and play together. The unique worship service is being designed to celebrate the "Family of God," and our membership in God's family and to encourage our individual families in the midst of the challenges of life.

Following the morning service we will have a very special luncheon on the church grounds (weather permit-

ting). Box lunches will be provided (sign-up in the Life Center) and we will be enjoying homemade ice cream as well. Some family



friendly games and activities are also being planned and sign-up sheets for the various games and opportunities will be available in the Life Center starting July 6<sup>th</sup>. Other fun activities

and elements of this special day will be announced during our weekend services throughout July.

In preparation for this special day, we encourage all of our OCC families to bring along their lawn chairs or blankets for seating. We are also looking for folks who are willing to make ice cream for our families to enjoy. Please mark this special day on your calendars and don't miss what may well be the most talked about Sunday of the summer. It's going to be great!

## *Worth Repeating...* **Mission Resource One-Day, One-Way, 160 miles**

On July 12, 2014, Mark Yeaton will be riding his bicycle across the state of Indiana in the annual RAIN Ride (**R**ide **A**cross **I**ndiana) to raise funds for Mission Resource.

Mission Resource is a ministry founded in Columbus, IN by David Ketchum. Their mission is to provide 0%

loans for small businesses in Ghana and Kenya. This year,

Hilltop Christian Camp will be hosting Mission Resource for all summer camp needs. Abby Glaser (marketing director) paired Mark's ride with a family needing a loan. The goal of this one-day, one-way ride is \$1600. Imagine, if 100 peo-

ple donated just \$16 the goal would be met! A family would be changed forever by the love of Christ. If you would like to help change the life a one family, go to <http://www.missionresource.org/> to donate.



# Celebrating Dependence Day

(No, that's not a typo.)

Kathy Bradley

The Grace Independent Church – that was the name on the billboard outside the quaint little building. Then, as it is wont to do, my mind began to wander and ponder – Grace Independent. That doesn't seem like a good idea. I don't know about you, but I'd rather not be independent of God's grace.

On July 4th, we celebrate Independence Day and take pride in being an independent nation. I suppose independence has its merits when separating from tyrannical oppression, nor would I deny that there comes a time for baby birds and our own "babies" to leave the nest. But when it comes to our Father God, His grace and His purposes, independence is not part of the equation.

In fact, Christ Himself said, "apart from me you can do nothing." It would behoove us to understand this. While we often reinterpret the word as "very little" or "not much," He actually said, "NOTHING." I don't deny my admiration for those

who rise above bad circumstances. We love it when we see someone pick themselves up by the bootstraps. But what happens when we don't have any boots? Therein lies the problem with independence. Our human strength is meager, our need great. In fact, God has told us elsewhere in His Word that we were dead in trespasses and sin. What exactly can a dead person do for himself? That is why we so desperately need our God; we need to depend upon him.

In Revelation, God invites us to come and freely drink, drink without cost. That flies in the face of our pride; we want to pay our own way, earn our keep. Unfortunately, we don't have the means. Imagine trekking through the hot, dry desert, fatigued and thirsty, and coming upon an oasis with a freely flowing spring. I can't drink the water,

however, because I have nothing to pay for it.

"But the water is free, you don't have to pay."

"No, no; I can't accept it for nothing." I must pay for it."

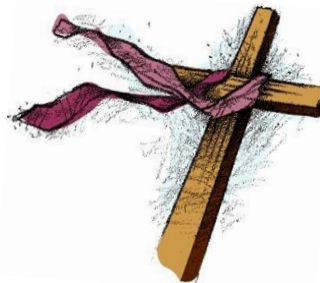
"Why?"

"I just... I just have to."

Or worse, perhaps I feel that it's beneath my dignity to get down on my hands and knees and slurp up water. Regardless, my pride will kill me.

How about just this once, as we celebrate our independence as a nation, we take a moment to celebrate our dependence on our loving, giving Father, who delights in blessing us with all good gifts.

Independence – it's overrated.



## OCC Festivity on the 4th

David and Melinda Foust will host a 4th of July celebration at their home on Friday, July 4th at 5:30 pm. Hot dogs, marshmallows, drinks including tea, lemonade and water and table service will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share and your lawn chairs. The festivities will conclude with a fireworks display at dark from the 4-H fairgrounds visible from the Foust's home. All are welcome and please, feel free to invite your friends!



## Closet Check

Have you been missing that winter coat, hat or sweater? Now is the time to check the OCC coat closet to see if you've left it there. Unclaimed articles from last year have been collecting and will soon be donated to the local clothes closet. Be sure to take a look by July 31st! You never know, it just might be there.



# Encouraged...

Virgil Clotfelter

This publication is "The Encourager," and I, for one, am very encouraged in my early days at OCC. Much of my encouragement has come from the way I see Ephesians 4:12 being lived out around here. I'm speaking of the part of the verse that says, "...to prepare God's people for works of service." My observation is that OCC is plum full of people who have been well prepared and are now fully committed to serving our Lord and one another. Such a spirit and behavior would encourage any preacher!

I have particularly noticed that almost every time there is a gathering or event, personal conversations usually include questions, concerns, updates, and prayers for those OCC members and friends who are facing tough times like illness, loss, and

uncertainty about the future. I hope we all consider ourselves blessed to be a part of such a caring group. I also hope that we all are doing everything we can to pass along a blessing to others as well.

What I see is a major part of my vision for the church. It is to be a body full of God's people caring for God's people. God has a caring army here at OCC! When this consistently happens, it helps keep people here because they know they are loved and in a caring place. It will also help draw new folks to Christ and OCC because, whether they will admit it or not, most people want to be a part of something where they feel they belong and matter to others. Such a passion for one another will also bring glory to

our God, which is basically our purpose here on this "big blue marble."

So, keep it up Ogilville Christian Church. I'm anticipating learning much from your example. –Virgil

*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*

PS—I've thoroughly enjoyed my time at VBS. The meals were marvelous, the music active and joyful and the lessons reinforced the theme that Jesus always loves us—when we're different from others, when we are confused and don't understand, when we feel left out, when we do wrong, and when we're afraid. And, the kids, as we all would expect, have been full of energy and joy.

## Fall Women's Retreat

As women, we are always dealing with changing seasons in our lives. Seasons of joy, seasons of sorrow, seasons of uncertainty. Garden Getaway is a special women's retreat that guides women through what the Bible says about different seasons of life, and what it means to walk with God through these seasons. The Garden Getaway retreat is intentionally created to answer the desires and needs of women. The intent is to give women opportunities to deepen their relationship with God while developing Christian friendships that will last well beyond the time of the retreat.

The best way to encourage friendships is to provide opportunities for

them to develop! Activities, worship, and time together all contribute to women sharing stories and growing closer to each other. The time you spend at Garden Getaway will do just that. The purpose of this entire experience is to have women feel affirmed and encouraged to grow closer to Jesus. Women will study Ecclesiastes 3, and through interactive activities, they will see how God is working in each season of their life.

Much has been said about the importance of relationships; so, what will we actually do at Garden Getaway to encourage authentic relationships? The entire experience is centered on six different sessions that

get everyone involved in a variety of activities. These activities provide natural opportunities for women to connect and better understand one another. Each session focuses on the concepts of seasonality and timing. From the good seasons to the difficult ones, women will see how God uses them all to grow us and help us grow closer to him.

Registration will be available from July 6 to August 31; the cost is \$30 for the weekend. (Gift Certificates and Scholarships available.) There are 20 spaces available, 10 of which may spend the night on location. The retreat dates are September 26 and 27. Look forward to hearing more about Garden Getaway throughout the month of July!

<http://www.group.com/womens-ministry/retreats/garden-getaway>



# Ogilville Christian Church

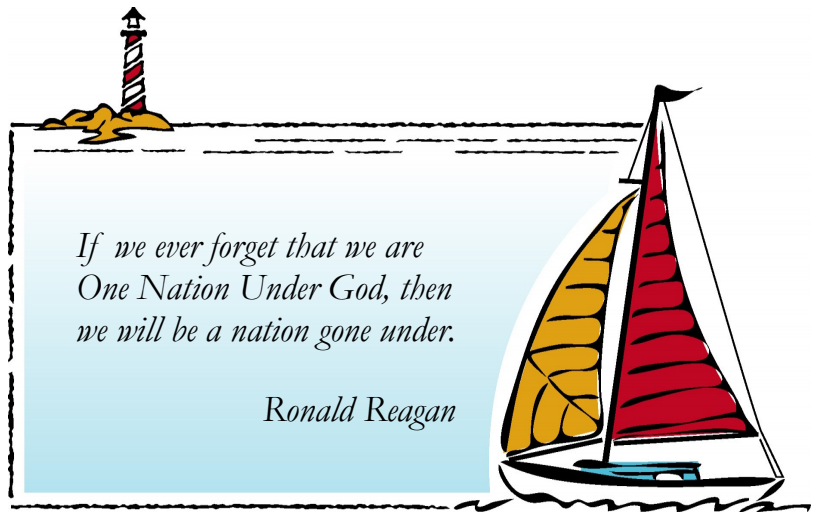
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*If we ever forget that we are  
One Nation Under God,  
then we will be a nation gone under.*

*Ronald Reagan*

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## ...on the calendar

- ◆ 4th, July 4th fellowship @ Foust's
- ◆ 6th, Donut Sunday
- ◆ 10, BLAST 6-8pm Cupcakes & Canvas
- ◆ 13th Missions Sunday
- ◆ 19th Men's Fellowship Breakfast
- ◆ 27th Family Day at OCC

## birthdays & anniversaries

- |                              |                           |                             |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Willard Smith              | 10 Kerry Compton          | 20 Shelby Hutchinson        |
| Eric Kerkhof                 | 11 Marty & Drema Wright*  | 21 Brian T. Wichman         |
| 2 Mary Clipp                 | Paul Nay                  | Jaxton Meek                 |
| 3 Sarah Shewmake             | Juleigh Piercefield       | 23 Gary Hamblen             |
| Jessy Meek                   | 12 Don Moody              | 24 Danielle Michael         |
| 4 Cody Caluya                | 13 Dot Yeaton             | Alex Barnett                |
| Cathy Wichman                | 14 Kade Senesac           | 25 Drema Wright             |
| Margaret King                | Brielle Mouser            | Wayne Roller                |
| 5 Gina Humbel                | Lincoln Mouser            | 27 Laina Kimmett            |
| Mickey Brown                 | 15 Corbin Whipker         | Alicia Weaver               |
| 8 David Petro                | 16 Hannah Perry           | 28 Ethan Johns              |
| Chesney Kinnick              | 17 John Hundley           | Zachery Johns               |
| 9 Dennis Murphy              | Emmitt Jones              | Zech Riggs                  |
| Courtney Faulkner            | 18 John & Sharon Kropack* | Shirley Hutchinson          |
| Janis Surenkamp              | Isabella Carlson          | 29 Matthew & Carmen Senesac |
| Harold & Shirley Hutchinson* | 19 Kaden Brooks           | 30 Ron & Tami May           |
|                              |                           | 31 Benita Wagner            |